FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 AUGUST 1980

Iran

In an interview reported by Tehran radio, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i has indicated that his differences with Abolhasan Bani-Sadr over the selection of a new cabinet are more fundamental than had previously been reported. Earlier Tahran reports, including an interview with Majles Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, had stated that the stumbling block was Raja'i's choice for the interior portfolio and perhaps some other appointments as well. According to the radio, however, Raja'i's stated that the "major part" of his lengthy talk with Bani-Sadr on 26 August was devoted not to "personalities" but to discussion of the "values" to be taken into consideration in the selection of cabinet members. Raja'i explained his position that the cabinet must be "100 percent devoted to the ideology" and said that the difficulty of finding men who meet this requirement and who also have a "familiarity with affairs" is the reason for the delay in the introduction of a new cabinet. Bani-Sadr has not commented on this meeting with Raja'i, but the delay to which Raja'i referred could have more to do with Bani-Sadr's possible objection to making theological considerations the major criteria, the overriding "value," in selecting cabinet ministers and with corollary differences between the two over what constitutes "familiarity with affairs." Raja'i apparently had little trouble independently choosing a cabinet meeting his own standards, for on 24 August he sent a letter to Rafsanjani expressing his "readiness" to introduce his cabinet to the Majles. Perhaps in order to bolster his position in relation to Bani-Sadr, Raja'i left no doubt as to where the imam stood on this question, citing Khomeyni as having said to him during their 27 August meeting that while he had no views to express on any given individual he wanted ideology and Islamic principles to be given "first priority" in the formation of a cabinet.

Lebanon

Official Lebanese reaction to the 27 August attempted assassination of U.S. Ambassador John Gunther Dean, as reported by Beirut radio, has been limited to a brief statement by Prime Minister al-Huss, who "strongly denounced" it as a "cowardly act" which served the aims only of those with "ill intentions" toward Lebanon. Beirut radio also announced that an investigation of the incident has begun and army forces are searching for those involved.

Egypt

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali told the KUWAIT TIMES, according to AFP, that an international conference under UN sponsorship is the "most feasible" way to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict. He said that this conference, which should be attended by "all parties concerned," could lead to a "global, just and permanent peace" in the region. Monitored Cairo media have not reported Ghali's comments to the KUWAIT TIMES.

In remarks reported by Cairo radio, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali reiterated that Egypt's position on the autonomy talks is "firm": It will resume negotiations only if the "obstacles created by Israel are surmounted." 'Ali also noted that negotiations have been held with the Americans on providing "temporary facilities" to the United States in Ra's Banas. He said that Ra's Banas is to be part of an overall framework of such sites provided to the United States in order to "help any Arab state subjected to foreign invasion."

'Ali has also disclosed, according to MENA, that a People's Assembly delegation and a journalists group, both composed of members of the National Democratic Party, will visit Israel "shortly" to establish "wide-scale" contacts in order to affirm that despite the freezing of the autonomy negotiations Egypt is still eager to achieve a comprehensive peace in the region. 'Ali also said that Egypt will invite several well-known Israelis for an "intensive dialogue" with Egyptian officials.

Jordan

In an interview with the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN, reported by Amman radio, Prime Minister Qasim ar-Rimawi confirmed earlier reports that King Husayn will visit the Soviet Union in the "near future." Ar-Rimawi also said that Jordan is trying through dialogue and "all possible means" to make the United States understand that its interests lie with the Arabs and not Israel. He noted that Jordan's relations with Syria have been "marred by a summer cloud" but that he expects them to improve in the "coming days." On the other hand, the prime minister described ties with Iraq as "excellent," a model for other Arab countries in their relations with each other.

Saudi Arabia

The Saudi Foreign Ministry spokesman has issued a statement on British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington's visit to Saudi Arabia. The statement, carried textually by SPA, said that Foreign Minister Sa'ud stressed to Carrington that the EEC has to take the initiative "without delay" to act on its condemnation of the annexation of Jerusalem and on its expressed concern for finding a just solution to the Palestinian issue on the basis of the principles agreed upon at the Venice summit. On bilateral matters, Sa'ud assured Carrington that there are now no "obstacles" to the development of economic relations between the two countries.

Iraq

ATH-THAWRAH, in an article reported by INA, identified the man who recently defected to Syria as 'Aziz Sharif. Damascus radio reported him to be Maj Gen 'Aziz Rashid 'Aqrawi, a minister of state in the current Iraqi Government. INA said Sharif was an "inefficient and unqualified" individual who had once been as associate of Kurdish rebel leader Barzani, but who had been "embraced" by the homeland after leaving Barzani's band and accusing it of treason. According to INA, he then failed as a party leader and government minister and was defeated in a bid for election to the National Assembly.

Arab Foreign Ministers

Amman's AL-AKHBAR reported that a meeting of Arab foreign ministers scheduled to be held in Amman on 31 August has been postponed. The paper cited no official sources for this information. The foreign ministers of Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, the Arab League secretary general, and a representative of the PLO were scheduled to attend the meeting.

Israel

The Jerusalem POST reported that the Cabinet has "secretly" decided to establish six new settlements on the West Bank, although Deputy Prime Minister Yadin said he intends to appeal to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee against three of them. According to the POST, the decision to establish the settlements was made by the ministerial defense committee.

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AMBASSADOR SARWARI PRESENTS CREDENTIALS IN ULAANBAATAR

LD272120 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] Asadullah Sarwari, the ambassador and extraordinary representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Afghanistan in Ulaanbaatar, presented his credentials in accordance with the usual ceremonies to the deputy president of the Mongolian People's Republic council of the [words indistinct] on 21 August.

KABUL MEETING PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR PDPA RESOLUTIONS

LD262330 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 26 Aug 80

[Text] The Party activists, cadres and members of the primary party organizations of the various party wards of Kabul have held large meetings in support of the resolutions of the third plenum of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee and expressed their readiness for revolutionary work and struggle to implement these valuable resolutions.

A large meeting held by the primary party organizations of the first party ward of Kabul at Amani school was attended by Soltan 'Ali Keshtman, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee, member of the Presidium, vice chairman of the Revolution Council, deputy premier, and minister of planning; Shah Mohammad Dost, member of the PDPA Central Committee, member of the Revolution Council and foreign minister; Fayz Mohammad, member of the PDPA Central Committee, member of the Revolution Council and minister of border and tribal affairs. At this meeting, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand spoke on the importance of such meetings for the implementation of the resolutions of the third plenum of the PDPA Central Committee. His speech was enthusiastically welcomed by the audience.

Later, [words indistinct] deputy secretary of the first party ward; Dr Sa'id, the deputy secretary of the PDPA primary organization of the Institute of Child Health, made speeches on the aims of the resolutions of the third plenum of the PDPA Central Committee and their implementation.

Takhar Province Meeting

LD251720 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 Aug 80

[Text] During a meeting yesterday at the provincial committee hall of Takhar Province and in the presence of the provincial committee, the activists and party cadres and members of the democratic youth organization of that province welcomed and supported the historic and great decisions of the PDPA Central Committee third plenum and pledged their revolutionary work and struggle toward their implementation.

In accordance with another report, in light of the decisions of the PDPA Central Committee third plenum approximately 100 members of the democratic youth organization of Takhar Province from the Yangi-Qala, Rostaq and Khwaja Ghar districts of that province, have gone to the fronts against the counterrevolutionary elements in order to eliminate the enemies of the sacred soil and the Sawr Revolution.

RELIGIOUS DELEGATION LEAVES FOR VISIT TO USSR

LD271716 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] One hundred ulema, clergymen, religious personalities and elders left today for the USSR to visit sacred Islamic places and meet with the ulema, clergy and the Muslims of the USSR. Interviewed before departure from Kabul international airport, a member of the delegation said that he considered this trip interesting [as heard] and thanked the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Government for making it possible.

PARTY DECREE ON DUTIES, ROLE OF GUILD UNIONS

LD250950 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 24 Aug 80

[Decree on the duties and role of the guild unions ratified by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee Politburo on 16 August]

[Text] The national and democratic Sawr Revolution, which was successfully led by the PDPA, has created a new life in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], whose basis is the unity of workers and peasants, who enjoy the resolute support of all the people. For the first time in the country, guild unions, organizations that are active under the political leadership of the PDPA, have been created. These unions unify workers, government officials and other toilers in different professions who are working in government institutions and private business and also the students of middle and higher education institutions, regardless of their religious beliefs, nationality or sex. These unions have become one of the most important (?movements) of the social democratic system.

Tens of thousands of our country's patriots have entered the union ranks and, under the leadership of the PDPA, are heroically defending the gains of the revolution and are actively participating in the construction of a new society, free from exploitation of man by man. The fact is that the guild union organizations have been established not only in government and mixed institutions but also in private institutions and among artisans.

Most of these organizations carry out important works concerning the explanation of the policy of the party and government among the workers, organize workers meetings to defend the gains of the revolution against the conspiracies of internal and external reaction and thus fulfill their duties toward the (?enlightenment) and unification of all the workers of Afghanistan around the party, Revolution Council and the DRA Government.

The guild unions participate in the enhancement of the country's economic situation, the establishment of schools and literacy courses, the development of educational, training, sports and health issues and assist those workers who are temporarily in need of material assistance. The DRA guild unions have become a full member of the World Federation of Trade Unions. The activity of these unions is supported and encouraged by government organs, which is mentioned in Article 6 of the DRA basic principles. The (?party) has put special emphasis on the role of the DRA unions in the construction of a new life in Afghanistan. The PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Government, in the second stage of the Sawr Revolution, are faced with new and specific duties in the country's internal situation, in whose solution the DRA guild unions must play a practical role.

The guild unions have the duty to defend the interests and rights of the workers. They must make an effort to improve working conditions and the life of the working class and other workers and also find work for the unemployed and those who do not have permanent work. Serious consideration must be given to the issue of youth employment. But without the development of the country's economy, it is not possible to raise the standard of living of the people and every family. Therefore, in order to raise production and improve output and the wise and careful handling of public property, the unions must, with all their strength, unite the working class, artisans and intellectuals. The unions must be involved in the organization of revolutionary work and collective work and in the (?improvement) of social and administrative work, industry, commerce, transport and agriculture.

The unions, by the development and evolution of democratic centralism and by the broadening and ever-increasing participation of the workers and social organizations in the (?area) of production, shall instruct the workers in organization and in the proper and economical use of raw materials, manpower, the material sources of the institutions, departments and organizations and also organize the activites of the workers for the struggle against bureacracy, sabotage, illegality and arbitrariness, bribery and theft, for this purpose it is necessary to enhance the level of general education and the cultural, professional, technical standards of the workers. The safeguarding of the workers' interests in the area of wages, social insurance and educational services and the maintaining of secure working conditions are one of the major duties of the guild unions. The guild unions, which link the workers of all economic, educational and cultural branches from all nationalities in the country in their ranks, ought to be a clear example of the fraternal unity and friendship of all large and small tribes and the clans of our beloved homeland, Afghanistan.

The guild unions, as the best social organization, must guard and expand the best and most valuable cultural riches of the people of our country and must pay attention to the creation of necessary conditions for the creative activities of all intellectual stratas of Afghanistan.

One of the important duties of the guild unions is the unification of all workers to support the Sawr **Revolution** and to organize them against every kind of conspiracy and the different tricks of internal and external reaction. (?Among the number of issues which the guild unions can resolve) it is necessary for the Central Committee of the **unions** of Afghanistan to attract and recruit new members into the ranks of the guild unions, first of all in the government institutions and other departments and organizations, in the educational institutions and establish union councils in the provinces and the city of Kabul, in accordance with the planned charter of the DRA guild unions. To accomplish this duty, special attention must be paid to the selection and training of cadres. Efforts must be made to insure that guidance for the cadres and activists in the unions is in accordance with the lofty requirements of the execution of their duties. Those comrades in the leadership of the guild unions must have experience in productive work, have done some political work and have shown their talents in the field of organization and training.

It is necessary to consolidate the links of the guild union organizations with the masses and to increase their effect in all areas of the workers' life. In this case the activities of the guild unions ought to be based on satisfying the masses, hard work and creativity. The creative work of the workers is based on the permanent observation of the unions' democracy, the principle of collective leadership and the broad and all-round development of criticism and self-criticism.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo ratifies the following:

1. The Central Committee of the **unions** of Afghanistan shall be dutybound to prepare and (?define) the charter of the DRA guild unions within 4 months in accordance with the defined regulations.

2. The Central Committee of the **unions** of Afghanistan has the duty to prepare the outline of the regulations concerning the rights of the primary organizations of the guild unions and submit them for ratification and approval to the DRA Council of Ministers. Concerning the above regulations, the following points shall be considered:

a. The government and medium and large private institutions, departments and organizations are dutybound to provide a room with appropriate equipment, lighting and cleaning for the union person and for the holding of meetings by the workers, and put the room at the disposal of the primary organization of the guild union, free of charge. The persons responsible shall provide transport and communication means to the union organization, free of charge.

b. The leadership of the government and those organizations who maintain their expenses and income without the help of the state and also the owners of the small and large private institutions shall allocate 15 percent from their budget for public education and sports.

c. The members of the union who have been selected as (?cadres) cannot be transferred without permission of the union organ and cannot be transferred or laid off by the authorities. The president of the union organ, without the permission of authorities superior to the union organ, cannot be transferred or laid off.

3. Workers responsible to superior organs and the unions have the unqualified right to visit institutions, departments and organizations to examine problems within the scope of their authority.

4. For the purpose of defining the relations between the management of an institute and the workers of that institute, the DRA Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Guild Unions of Afghanistan have the duty to plan and approve regulations concerning the signing and acceptance of collective contracts.

5. The DRA Council of Ministers is instructed to ask their related ministries to start preparing a draft labor law with the approval of the Central Committee of the Unions of Afghanistan.

6. The provincial, city, ward and district party committees, the primary party organizations of the DRA, the responsible persons of the ministries, government and mixed institutions and departments and organizations are dutybound to give practical support toward the establishment of the union organizations and in the organization of local and regional union organs. In addition, they must appoint experienced members of the party who are familiar with the needs and working conditions of workers for the accomplishment of union duties.

7. The control of the execution of this draft is the duty of the PDPA Central Committee. The contents of this draft shall be published.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo strongly believes that the DRA guild unions will be a trustworthy pillar of the party to defend the gains of the Sawr revolution and its second stage. It will play a valuable role in the development and enhancement of the standard of living and in the training of workers.

[Signed] General Secretary of PDPA Central Committee Babrak Karmal

GOVERNMENT PAPER TO BE PUBLISHED IN PASHTO, DARI

LD272116 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] It is hereby brought to the attention of our beloved countrymen that from now on the newspaper HIWAD shall be the information organ of the DRA Government and shall begin publication in Pashto and Dari on Thursday, 28 September 1980, thus replacing the newspaper HAQIQATE ENQLABE SOWR.

Beloved countrymen and subscribers of the newspapers HIWAD and HAQIQATE ENQLABE SOWR are hereby informed.

BULGARIAN WEEKLY INTERVIEWS MUSLIM CLERIC

AU181640 Sofia BTA in English 1455 GMT 18 Aug 80

["On Islam in Afghanistan"--BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, 18 Aug (BTA)--Today the POGLED weekly carries an interview by its envoy with Mullah 'Abdel 'Aziz Sadeq, president of Afghanistan's biggest Muslim organization Jam'iyyat-e 'Ulema.

The Islamic priest emphasizes that the writings in the Western newspapers about the new government restricting religion are not true. Says the mullah: "There is no such thing! All our mosques are open, you can see it for yourselves. Our sermons are free and nobody disturbs us. Moreover, Education Minister Mrs Ratebzad allowed the publication of a number of books that had been forbidden at the time of Hafizollah Amin."

He points out that the Sawr Revolution and its second stage have created a new atmosphere in Afghanistan. 'Abdel 'Aziz Sadeq says: "The revolution won because it won the people's backing. The government maintains that it supports our faith, supports the religion. In this case why should we not support it?"

He maintains that a great part of the mullahs, having understood that Babrak Karmal's government is not against Islam, offered their hands for cooperation. Says the mullah: "But the mullahs who gave way to hostile propaganda ran away and are now either in Pakistan or Iran. Some of them, whom the truth has reached, are already returning. Sometimes the mercenaries kill both the mullahs and their families, accusing them of cooperation with the government."

Replying to the question about the attitude of the clergy towards the army, Mullah 'Abdel 'Aziz Sadeq says: "We know that this army defends our interests. This is why we sent mullahs to all provinces, to all garrisons, to tell the soldiers that it is correct for them to defend their country and people from the aspirations of imperialism."

The mullah maintains: "There are Moslems and Moslems. For instance, what kind of Moslems are those helping the counter-revolutionaries in Pakistan and encouraging them to kill innocent people? I ask: Are they real Moslems?"

ROAD FROM KABUL TO KHYBER PASS REPORTEDLY CLOSED

LD271135 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 27 Aug 80 p 5

[Bruce Loudon dispatch: "Guerrillas Cut Khyber Pass Link to Kabul"]

[Text] New Delhi--Afghanistan's commercial lifeline to the outside world was severed yesterday amid reports of increased Moslem guerrilla activity and mutiny among Afghan commandos who are supposed to guard the route from Kabul to the Khyber Pass.

At the same time, reports reaching New Delhi said a huge airlift of Russian troops who under way to the city of Herat, the western gateway to Afghanistan, in what appears to be a desperate attempt to break a virtual siege of the area.

First-hand accounts from Kabul said the road from Kabul to the Khyber Pass had been closed for three days and that "hundreds" of commercial vehicles are piled up at either end.

Diplomatic reports reaching New Delhi last night told of the death of a West German tourist near Jalalabad. The reports said it was not clear whether he was killed by Moslem rebels or by shots fired from a Russian helicopter. He was travelling with two companions towards the Khyber Pass.

The trouble-centre is Sorobi, midway between Kabul and Jalalabad, near the Khyber Pass. Sorobi-based Afghan Army commandos have become increasingly rebellious in the past few days and have shown signs of mutiny against their officers, most of whom are cadres of President Babrak Karmal's Parcham faction of the ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP).

"Unrest" among the commandos, who guard the road and nearby electricity generating stations, has been growing, and has been fanned by intensified guerrilla activity in the area.

The Sorobi commander, travelling with his 13-year-old daughter and four brother officers, was blown up by a landmine, apparently planted by the insurgents.

Since then, it seems, the Sorobi garrison has been in open mutiny, refusing to mount the convoys which have in the past been necessary to secure travel along the road.

Travel along the vital road was suspended during the weekend. Any prolonged stoppage would seriously harm Kabul, for despite the poor state of relations with neighbouring Pakistan, the Khyber Pass remains the principal conduit for Afghan imports and exports.

The three-day stoppage is the longest period that traffic has been halted along the road since the Russians arrived and indicates the deteriorating situation from the occupation army's point of view.

The diplomatic reports confirmed other accounts of the closure of the Khyber Pass road and said that while life in Kabul appeared generally "normal," spot checks of all private vehicles on the streets were continuing as a precaution against rebel infiltration.

Reports of the big Russian airlift to Herat yesterday were coupled with others that the people of Herat, who have fought against the Russians for the past eight months, have been sending cosmetics and women's clothing to residents of other towns whom they regard as being less than valiant in their opposition to the Russians.

Rouge make-up has been sent to Kandahar, while women's underwear has been sent to Kunar and Paktia. This is a traditional Afghan demonstration, and the implication is that the recipients are not men but women, since they are not fighting strongly enough against the Russians.

Herat is virtually in insurgent hands, and travellers say that the Afghan administration there has been almost entirely emasculated. Many government offices have closed, and their officials have retreated to Kabul.

Meanwhile, another report from Kabul claims that four more ministers of the deposed Hafizollah Amin regime have been executed. All were members of the Khalq faction of the ruling party, which is at loggerheads with President Karmal's Parcham faction.

INDIAN SOURCES CITED ON BUILDUP OF VOLUNTEER FORCE

BK271657 Hong Kong AFP in English 1559 GMT 27 Aug 80

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] New Delhi, 27 Aug (AFP)--The Soviet-backed Afghan Government has decided to raise a force of 10,000 to 15,000 armed volunteers to counter the rebels, and Indian Foreign Office sources here say that the efforts have met with initial success. So far an estimated 4,000 volunteers from various Afghan provinces have been enlisted and are being given crash courses in weapon training and guerrilla warfare, the sources, who asked not to be named, said.

The decision to raise the volunteer force--the idea was first mooted in Moscow--was taken at the high-level meeting Afghan President Babrak Karmal and his military generals had with a visiting high-powered Soviet military delegation in Kabul some time in the middle of this month, the sources said.

The volunteers, who are in the age group of 18-20, are either activists of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) or sympathisers, the sources added.

The sources, however, could not say if the majority of the volunteers belonged to the Babrak Karmal's Parcham (Flag) faction of the PDPA. Afghan sources here believe that a majority of the volunteers belongs to the Parcham faction. There was, however, no independent confirmation.

Quoting reports from Kabul, the Indian sources said that an urspecified number of volunteers are being trained in parachute jumpting, apparently to use the skill in reaching areas where roads are under the effective rebel control.

Each volunteer is armed with automatic weapons, grenades and signal equipment, the latter to be used to alert or inform the regular forces for an attack on a rebel stronghold, the sources said.

Each volunteer is given ten times the stipend a newly drafted soldier in the regular army gets. A volunteer is paid AFS 2,000 (U.S. dollars 45) per month inclusive of his expenses on food, whereas a newly drafted soldier gets only AFS 200 (U.S. dollars four) per month but all his expenses on food, clothing and lodging are taken care by the state.

The decision to raise the volunteer force was taken to make up for the losses the regular Afghan Army has suffered. According to estimates made by the U.S. Defense Department, the effective strength of the regular Afghan Army has come down from 80,000 to 20,000, to 35,000, [figures as received] following desertion and mutiny.

Indian Foreign Office sources, however, say that the volunteers are not being given adequate training. "Whenever they spot a young willing Afghan, he is brought to the nearest army centre, his credentials are rechecked and he is put on a crash course in arms. After four to ten days he is assigned with a group and dispatched to rebellion-hit areas," an Indian source said.

The assignment of volunteers is not centralised. In fact the emphasis is on assigning the volunteers in the provinces they belong, the sources said.

Confirmation of the establishment of the volunteeer force and its activities first came last Friday when the state-owned Kabul radio said that a volunteer group had captured 24 "terrorists and mercenaries of foreign agents" in the Herat Province, adjoining Iran. The radio announced in its Pashto-language bulletin monitored here last Monday the appointment of 100 volunteers in the Farhar Province, bordering Iran. After initial training to counter the "bandits", the volunteer group left for "the fighting front with cries of joy", the radio said.

Quoting reports from the Afghan capital, Indian Foreign Office sources said that lately, sensitive administrative posts in the Afghan Government are being filled with young Soviet-trained Afghans. "Several hundred" Afghans, who were taken to the Soviet Union for advanced studies or training in 1978-79 have come back to Afghanistan during the last month and taken up sensitive jobs in the government offices.

During Mohammed Daud's rule Moscow gave liberal scholarships to Afghan students, but their number multiplied soon after Nur Mohammed Taraki came to power in April 1978. Though there was an apparent lull during Hafizollah Amin's September-December 1979 rule, their number again has since gone up considerably, the sources said.

AFP REPORTS REVISED THREE-POINT SOVIET STRATEGY

BK260948 Hong Kong AFP in English 0909 GMT 26 Aug 80

[By Danielle Eyquem]

[Text] New Delhi, 26 Aug (AFP)--The Soviets have decided to carry out a new three-point political, social and military strategy in Afghanistan. Western military experts and Third World observers here believe this is a result of a recent visit to Kabul of a Soviet military mission. The aim of the new strategy is to strengthen the regime of President Babrak Karmal by widening his support and to modify Soviet Army tactics by adopting more efficient anti-guerrilla operations, the sources said.

They added that the new strategy comes after eight months of mediocre results by the Soviet expeditionary corps in Afghanistan.

1. Political. The Soviets have decided to halt the purge being carried out by President Karmal, head of the Parcham (Flag) faction of the Afghan communist party, against the rival faction Khalq (People). The Parcham adherents are mainly recruited from the city middle class while the Khalq membership comes from the provinces and the army. The Soviets want both factions to work together, especially Parcham and Khalq ministers in the Karmal government.

According to a veteran communist party member--not an Afghan--who arrived here recently "whenever Afghan communist party leaders met, the representatives of both factions came fully armed, glaring fiercely at each other and apparently only awaiting the signal to start shooting."

The Soviets decided finally to end the bloodshed between the two factions because it was too difficult for them to make any clear ideological distinction between them.

The situation is complicated by the fact that traditionally both factions have employed the method of placing their own agents amongst the other's members.

In any case, Radio Kabul in the past few days has continually mentioned the tasks carried out by Khalq ministers, while in the past their names were usually never mentioned.

The veteran comunist, who personally joined Parcham night patrols in Kabul, said there is firing every day. But he did not know whether it was between Parcham and Khalqs or whether rebels had penetrated into the capital.

2. Social. The Soviets plan wider distribution of seeds and fertilisers to Afghan farmers and generous loans to small businesses, while at the same time the Kabul regime repeats that there will be no nationalisation. Major financial aid is being given to Kabul.

Afghan rebel sources admit that in certain regions, notably in Paktia along the Pakistani border, the Soviets have managed to win over a certain part of the local population.

3. Military. The Soviet high command has already withdrawn heavy weapons that are useless in the broken terrain of Afghanistan as well as anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons, as the guerrillas have neither tanks nor planes. But the Soviets were worried in case these weapons were captured by the rebels and used against themselves.

The Soviets plan to use commandos, light tanks and above all helicopter gunships to isolate the guerrillas from villages and towns. Air raids against villages have increased in the past month and a Western military observer has noted that "the Soviets are making systematic reprisals against any pro-rebel village."

Observers believe that the Soviet Army has also been forced to intervene in force in some towns, and notably in Herat, near the Iranian border. Soviet generals have divided the country into sectors and will treat villages according to whether they are pro-rebel or neutral.

MINISTER CITES PARTY DECISION ON 'DEMOCRATIC STRUCTURE'

BK241734 Hong Kong AFP in English 1727 GMT 24 Aug 80

[Text] Islamabad, 24 Aug (AFP)--Afghanistan will have a democratic structure under which the people will enjoy "complete freedom of life," Kabul radio quoted Communication Minister Aslam Watanjar as saying in Kabul today.

Giving details of the decision taken by the third session of the Central Committee of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), Mr Watanjar said the government of Afghan President Babrak Karmal, "with the cooperation of the Soviet Union," was taking every possible step "to overcome the difficulties faced by the people," the broadcast monitored here reported. The Central Committee of the PDPA met in Kabul yesterday.

The committee decided to "chase all those working against the revolution," he said adding that anti-government elements "will never succeed in their mission."

Mr Watanjar, himself a member of the Central Committee of the PDPA, accused American news media, particularly U.S. television, of "launching a campaign of false propaganda" against Kabul.

DETAILS OF BANGLADESH-FRENCH NUCLEAR AGREEMENT GIVEN

BK280225 Hong Kong AFP in English 0136 GMT 28 Aug 80

[Text] Dacca, 27 Aug (AFP)--The nuclear cooperation agreement expected to be signed between France and Bangladesh during President Ziaur Rahman's brief visit to Paris next Friday will be a general agreement on cooperation in nuclear technology, official sources said here today. The proposed agreement will be a sort of "umbrella accord" providing for technical assistance from France for the development of nuclear technology in Bangladesh, which has already signed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. The signing of the agreement would immediately benefit Bangladesh in procuring a nuclear reactor for its Ruppur nuclear power project in Pabna district about 120 km northwest of here.

Negotiation on the reactor for the Ruppur project was underway between the two countries but the size and nature of the proposed reactor Bangladesh would like to install for generating electricity for the country's northern districts facing acute shortage of power was still uncertain. The Ruppur project was envisaged in the 1960's when Bangladesh was still East Pakistan. Pakistan Minister Golam Farooq visited Paris at that time seeking French aid for the project. But subsequently, with growing differences between the then Pakistan central government and the then East Pakistan over political and economic questions, the project was shelved and was not pursued in right earnest.

Besides France, the Pakistan authorities at that time also contacted Belgium for possible technical and financial assistance for the Ruppur project, the size of which used to vary from 125 to 300 megawatt in the course of negotiations. The Ruppur project covers several thousand hectares of land on the left bank of the River Ganges (Padma) down the Hardinge Bridge. Though the project site covers large areas with several buildings and structures here and there, the delay in the procurement of the required reactor has practically put the whole project into uncertainty.

After the emergence of Bangladesh in 1971, the Ruppur project lost proper attention of the then Awami League government of Sheikh Mujib. The delay in implementing the project often became political issues with opposition parties accusing the government of neglecting the project. With the present government coming to power a few years ago, the issue was revived and President Zia issued directives a few months ago to resume work on the project. The urgency was felt in view of an acute shortage of power in the northern and southwestern parts of Bangladesh causing impediments for speedy industrialisation and upliftment of agriculture.

After ratifying the non-proliferation treaty, Bangladesh recently resumed negotiations with a number of countries including France for supply and installation of nuclear reactor for the project. Foreign minister Shamsul Haq said recently that Bangladesh had been negotiating with France for the procurement of the reactor for the Ruppur project which, he pointed out, would be for peaceful purposes. He did not say the size of the reactor but the State Minister for Science and Technology Dr R.A. Ghani was quoted as saying recently that work on the 125 megawatt nuclear project costing taka 4 billion (about $267 million) would be completed in 6 years.

Officials here expressed optimism about the negotiations currently underway with France for the project which, when completed, will be Bangladesh's first nuclear power plant.

The negotiations are likely to take positive shape during President Zia's ensuing visit to Paris at the invitation of President Giscard d'Estaing next Friday and also after the signing of the nuclear cooperation agreement between the two countries.

FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES STATEMENT ON JERUSALEM

BK250933 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0841 GMT 25 Aug 80

[Text] The official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs made the following statement in New Delhi on August 23 on the question of Jerusalem: The Government of India have consistently held view that Jerusalem is a part of those territories occupied by Israel which must be vacated in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations. India has always been and continues to be totally opposed to Israeli attempts to make the holy city of Jerusalem their capital.

The Security Council resolution adopted on August 20, 1980 on this subject reflects the censure and condemnation of these attempts of the Israeli Government by the international community. The fact that this resolution was adopted unanimously with no negative votes and only one abstention should make it clear to everyone the strong feelings of the international community on this question.

The Government of India has condemned the enactment by Israel of their so-called basic law on Jerusalem and Israeli refusal to abide by the Security Council resolutions on this subject. The foreign minister of India, P.V. Narasimha Rao, had made a statement on this subject in the Lok Sabha on July 21 and informed the world from that forum that India is totally opposed to the Israeli move to declare Jerusalem as its eternal capital. It may be recalled that India had also cosponsored the resolution at the special emergency session of the UN General Assembly on Palestine calling for the adoption of effective measures under chapter 7 of the UN Charter against Israel in the event of the latter's noncompliance with the resolution. Speaking on the occasion in the United Nations the foreign minister had said: "This is an attempt to destroy the historic personality of the Holy City and obliterate its sacred heritage." The Government of India reiterates its continued support to the demand for the vacation of areas occupied by Israel and to the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people including their right to a nation state in their homeland.

COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE TO BE TESTED IN FRANCE

BK241116 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 24 Aug 80

[Text] India's first experimental communication satellite--APPLE [Ariane Passenger Payload Experiment]--will be moved to France around the 20th of next month for launching atop the Ariane launch vehicle of the European Space Agency in February next year. Professor U.R. Rao, director of the Indian Space Research Organization, said the satellite would undergo acceptance tests before finally journeying to Kourou in French Guyana for lift off.

DPRK VICE PREMIER ARRIVES FOR TALKS, ATTENDS DINNER

BK280234 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] Vice Premier of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Kim Kyong-yon has said that his visit to Pakistan will contribute to the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries. He was talking to newsmen at Islamabad airport tonight on his arrival from Karachi. He was received at the airport by Foreign Minister Agha Shahi. The DPRK vice premier said he would discuss matters of common concern including further development of friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries with Pakistani leaders. He conveyed friendly greetings of the government and the people of the DPRK to the people and Government of Pakistan.

Earlier the DPRK vice premier, who arrived in Karachi this morning, had a meeting with Federal Minister for Food and Agriculture Rear Adm Mohammad Fazil Janjua and discussed with him matters of mutual interest. The DPRK vice premier also visited the exports display center of the export promotion bureau. The minister of foreign affairs hosted a dinner in his honor in Islamabad tonight.

Dinner Speeches

BK280340 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 28 Aug 80

[Text] Foreign Minister Agha Shahi has underlined the urgent necessity for the countries of the Third World more than ever before to coordinate their efforts to meet the common political and economic challenges facing them today. He was speaking at a dinner hosted by him in honor of DPRK Vice Premier Kim Kyong-yon in Islamabad last night. He said it is within the context of the increasing need for Third World solidarity that the example of the friendly and cordial relations between the DPRK and Pakistan assume special significance. He said the people of the two countries are forging relations of friendship based on mutual respect, noninterference in each other's affairs and a common desire for peace and progress.

Reciprocating the sentiments expressed by the foreign minister, the DPRK vice premier said Korea and Pakistan are nonaligned countries situated in the Asian Continent and interlinked by firm bonds of friendship. He recalled the first meeting between President Kim Il-song and President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Yugoslavia on 7 May this year and said it was a historic event of great significance in further consolidating and developing friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and Pakistan.

FOREIGN OFFICE DENIES REPORTS OF MILITARY NEGOTIATIONS

BK251614 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 25 Aug 80

[Text] A spokesman of the Pakistan Foreign Office has categorically denied reports published in Western press that Pakistan and Saudi Arabia are negotiating on the stationing of one division of Pakistani troops in Saudi Arabia in exchange for $1 billion military and economic aid by Saudi Arabia to Pakistan.

The spokesman said in Islamabad today that Pakistan-Saudi Arabian military cooperation had been continuing under the provisions of 1967 bilateral agreement and this year the agreement has been renewed. The spokesman also said that Pakistan has similar arrangements with 22 other brotherly Islamic countries.

HAQ ADDRESSES CONVENTION ON CONSTITUTION, POLITICS

BK221705 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 22 Aug 80

[Excerpts] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq announced a number of measures aimed at accelerating the process of Islamization in the country at the religious scholars convention which ended in Islamabad this afternoon.

The president also referred to the political vacuum and said he himself feels that this vacuum and the feeling of uncertainty should be ended. He made it clear that he is not considering forming his own political party or contesting elections. The president said the present political system which is based on the party system has many drawbacks which have to be removed. He said he has no objection to the adult franchise system, but he cannot allow any candidate to contest elections who is not a true Muslim and a genuine Pakistani. He said no concession will be granted in this connection. He said the Law Ministry is reviewing this matter and Mr A.K. Brohi's services have been obtained for this purpose.

Referring to the constitution, the president said there is no doubt about its Islamic preamble, but its provisions have to be brought into conformity with Islam. He said until a parliament is established--which could be termed as national assembly, federal council or working committee--religious scholars will serve as his working committee.

HAQ DETERMINED TO IMPLEMENT ISLAMIC SYSTEM

BK260322 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Aug 80

[Excerpt] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said his government is engaged in a jihad for the enforcement of the Islamic system in the country and no one can deviate him from this course. Addressing members of the local zakat committees in Faisalabad tonight he declared that the system of zakat has come to stay and there should be no ambiguity or anxiety about it. He pointed out that followers of all schools of thought were agreed on the question of zakat as one of the fundamental pillars of Islam and the differences related only to the method of its collection and distribution. He said the criticism of the system of zakat made by certain quarters was in fact a fake criticism and politically motivated. He was determined to compulsorily deduct 2.5 percent zakat so that it is distributed among the poor, the indigent and other needy persons. He said to remove [word indistinct] differences, he will incorporate the necessary changes in the law and, in the light of the positive criticism of the system of zakat, he would lay down proper procedures under which zakat was used to help the poor accordingly. He said he did not want disunity or division in the nation on the question of zakat.

LAWYERS BOYCOTT KARACHI COURTS IN PROTEST OF ARRESTS

BK271335 Hong Kong AFP in English 1325 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] Karachi, 27 Aug (AFP)--Pakistani lawyers boycotted the city courts here today and demanded the immediate release of 10 lawyers arrested during a protest march against the military regime last week. The lawyers had clashed with police, who used teargas and sticks to break up their demonstration here on August 21. Ten lawyers were arrested and three were admitted to hospital after the clash. The lawyers risk long prison sentences if convicted.

All political activity, including protest demonstrations and processions, is strictly prohibited under the martial law implemented throughout Pakistan last October. A general body meeting of the Karachi Bar Association, chaired by its president, Kabir Uddin Khan, today meanwhile reaffirmed the legal fraternity's determination to continue the struggle for the restoration of human rights, rule of law and democracy in the country.

DEVELOPMENTS IN RELATIONS WITH U.S., HOSTAGES

Beheshti on Hostages

LD271806 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1654 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] According to PARS NEWS AGENCY Ayatollah Beheshti, president of the state Supreme Court, today took part in a press and radio-TV conference in which foreign and domestic correspondents were present and answered their questions.

On the question of the hostages the president of the Supreme Court said: This issue does not have first priority for Iran. Ayatollah Beheshti then referred to the role played by the public media in the country and said: The media should not use the publications of facts as a pretext to spread poison and create a disturbed atmosphere in society.

About the [word indistinct] of ministers Dr Beheshti said: This issue should be delineated by a special article of law, according to which the material wealth of these people should be reviewed both before and after their appointment of ministerial posts so that there is a basis for comparison.

About activities within the judicial branch, the president of the Supreme Court of the country said: The judicial branch needs a fundamental (?change) more than anything else and in order to institute this fundamental (?change) various operations have taken place. Interpretation of laws, educating new judges, and evaluating existing judges as to the [word indistinct] which a judge should have in the judicial branch of the Islamic Republic of Iran (?codifying) the law with regard to the judicial police, and creating suitable grounds for taking action are among the operations carried out by the judicial branch. The president of the country's Supreme Court then said: No doubt the existence of a powerful, strong and [word indistinct] judicial branch would be of great help in maintaining order and security but this alone is not enough. The executive branch plays a great role in this respect, too. The judicial [word indistinct] should operate under the precise supervision of the judicial branch.

About the activities of various groups, Dr Beheshti said: We should try to return to the normal and healthy conditions of social life. One of the signs of normal conditions would be the fact that groups would be able to operate within the limits set by the Constitution.

Further Details

NC271108 Paris AFP in English 1103 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] Tehran, 27 Aug (AFP)--the only reason for holding the American Embassy hostages is for Iran to have the possibility to explain to the world how aggressive and cruel the United States' policy was in Iran over the past few years, Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti told a news conference here today.

But while the issue of the hostages, who have been held in the embassy since Nov 4, remained important and had to be resolved, it should not be allowed to eclipse other Iranian problems, Ayatollah Beheshti said.

Asked about the problems in forming a new Iranian government, the ayatollah, who leads the Islamic Republic Party, which dominates the parliament, admitted there were some difficulties but he did not rule out success.

President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr and Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i are currently at loggerheads over the nomination of Cabinet ministers. "It is harmful to our country and nation to delay the new Cabinet and I hope we will, or can, have the new government as soon as possible," Dr Beheshti said. "It is not difficult to form a Cabinet," he said, "it is difficult to form a harmonized Cabinet to develop revolutionary Iran."

Arranging a strong foreign policy would be the first task of a new Cabinet, the ayatollah said. "We have to support the movement of all oppressed people in the world and protect our full independence," he said.

Ayatollah Beheshti said he had not yet received any prosecution documents on accusations of spying levelled against the Anglican Church in Iran, but he added that if proof of guilt was established, all those accused would stand trial and be sentenced in Iran. Three Britons working for Anglican missions were currently detained in Iran, along with a British journalist.

Minister, MP Urges Decision on Hostages

NC280955 Paris AFP in English 0941 GMT 28 Aug 80

[Text] Tehran, Aug 28 (AFP)--The continued holding of the 52 U.S. Embassy hostages is no longer in Iran's interests, a member of parliament considered favourable to President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr told the assembly today.

Abdol-Hoseyn Jalali, urging members to debate the hostages issue, noted that religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni had decided the fate of the hostages should be settled by parliament.

The assembly had now been in session for 3 months, and the U.S. was taking advantage of the situation and appearing as innocent in the eyes of the world, Mr. Jalali, MP from Neyshabur, Khorasan Province, said. The U.S. was putting pressure on Iranian students abroad because of the holding of the hostages seized here on November 4, Mr Jalali said.

His appeal followed remarks on Sunday by Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh that holding the hostages was not in Iran's interests.

In an interview in the English-language Tehran TIMES today, Economic Affairs and Finance Minister Reza Salimi also said the time had come to decide upon the hostages' fate. "I don't see any reason why we should hold the U.S. hostages without determining their future," he said.

NVOI CRITICIZES QOTBZADEH'S POSITION ON HOSTAGES

TA280430 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Unattributed commentary: "Qotbzadeh in the Role of the Defense Lawyer of the American Spy Hostages"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Lately numerous documents and evidence have been published in U.S. newspapers in connection with the preparation of new military aggressions by world-devouring U.S. imperialism against the Islamic Republic of Iran. Quoting authoritative and reliable sources U.S. newspapers report that the Carter administration is engaged with the utmost haste in preparing a new military aggression against Iran, which according to the plan, will be carried out prior to the start of the U.S. presidential elections.

The Americans are describing the preparation of such a banditry action as a so-called humanitarian measure which allegedly is for the release of the American hostages. No one can have the slightest doubt that the problem of the hostages is nothing more than a pretext and an excuse for U.S. officials. As a result of the revolution of the Iranian nation world-devouring U.S. imperialism has suffered a fatal wound. It has lost a stronghold, the evil satanic regime, and a base, Iran. It is in order to regain these lost positions that the Americans are ready to commit any act, because not only the lives of 50 hostages but the lives of thousands of Americans have no value for the occupiers of the White House when weighed against the plundering interests of U.S. monopolies.

The Iranian nation and government demand their legal rights. Our nation demands that the United States refrain forever from interfering in our country's internal affairs; that it confesses to its inadmissable interference in our country's affairs during the corrupt government of the former shah and its participation in the crimes and plunders, and that it condemns those interventions. The Iranian people demand that those tens of billions of dollars of plundered money stolen from the country by members of the corrupt Pahlavi family and which were deposited in American banks be returned to the Iranian nation. It is only in such a case that the issue of the American hostages can be resolved.

The leaders of the United States have become accustomed to plundering our nation's wealth and possessions by the hands of the rulers of the satanic regime. However, that era has passed. America's servants have been expelled by the powerful hand of the nation, and the nation has regained its independence, and it has founded the system of the Islamic Republic in Iran through its decisive vote. Disgraced elements like Qotbzadeh also cannot restore the position of their American masters by various maneuvers and mud-slinging. The Americans should remember forever that the era when the foreigners used to give orders and instructions in our country has passed. The problem of the hostages in our country was caused by the shameful and illegal interference of the Americans in our country's internal affairs, and the solution of this problem is conditional of the implementation of the legal demands of the Iranian nation.

Contrary to all international principles and mores the American hostages were engaged in espionage in our country, and it is now Iran's Islamic Consultative Assembly which should make a decision in their case. However, if the legal demand of the Iranian nation does not please Mr Qotbzadeh and his American masters this is another matter. It is noteworthy that this same Mr Qotbzadeh is knocking on every door in order to play the role of the defense lawyer of the U.S. spy hostages. While during his recent trips to foreign countries he met with American officials and raised with them the issue of overthrowing the Islamic Republic regime, and at the same time in order to compensate his disgraceful defeat in the presidential elections he has agreed to resume cooperation with the representatives of the archsatan, now without any fear he has come out in defense of the American spy hostages. In an interview which he recently held with the correspondent of TIME magazine he explicitly declared that allegedly the trial of the American hostages is contrary to Iran's national interests, and he has raised the issue of releasing the hostages.

It is understood from Mr Qotbzadeh's remarks that if the Iranian Government does not pursue a moderate course in its relations with plunderer and usurper America and if the American hostages are not released, the chance of success of the present government will amount to nil. The repeated actions and statements of Qotbzadeh reaffirm the fact that he too is among those liberals who, as the occasion arises and in accord with a signal from the master have infiltrated the ranks of the revolutionaries, and who is now gradually revealing his secret nature. The Qotbzadehs reveal their true nature but are unaware that the Iranian revolution is continuing to progress and no individual or power will be able to divert it from its popular, anti-imperialist and anti-American course.

TWO MILITARY OFFICERS INVOLVED IN 'U.S. PLOT' ON TRIAL

GF271650 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] PARS has quoted the Islamic Revolution general prosecutor as saying that the Islamic Revolution Court began proceedings yesterday against two persons involved in the U.S. plot. The court is continuing its trial of three other persons accused of involvement in the plot. PARS added that all persons on trial are military officers.

FOREIGN MINISTRY INFORMS USSR TO CLOSE RASHT CONSULATE

LD271539 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 21 Aug 80 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Foreign Affairs Ministry Gives 24 hours' Notice: Iran Asks for Closure of Soviet Consulate in Rasht"]

[Text] In an announcement yesterday, the Foreign Affairs Ministry stated that the Soviet Government has been given 24 hours to close down one of its consulates in Iran, the one at Rasht. The text of the announcement reads as follows:

"Following the closure of the Iranian Consulate in Leningrad, the desire expressed by the Islamic Republic of Iran to open a consulate in Dushanbe, and the Soviet Union's opposition to this, the Islamic Republic of Iran Foreign Affairs Ministry has informed the Soviet Union that it must close down one of its two consulates, the one at Rasht, within 24 hours.

"After the expiration of this period, the charge d'affaires of the Soviet Russian Embassy [as published] visited the Foreign Affairs Ministry and stated that his government had closed down the consulate in Esfahan, and had changed the status of the consulate in Rasht to that of consulate general."

The KEYHAN political correspondent contacted an authority at the Foreign Affairs Ministry and asked: "Why is Iran insisting on having a consulate at Dushanbe in Tadzhikistan?" In reply the official said: "Dushanbe is a city inhabited by Muslims; we can publicize Islam there and allow the people there to avail themselves of embassy publications if they wish. At the same time, there are many Iranians in Tadzhikistan, but there are no Iranians in Leningrad, and the consulate there has no work to perform. The Soviet Government objected to the transfer of the consulate to Dushanbe on the grounds that no foreign consulate exists there. We expected that, of their two consulates, the Soviet Government would close down the one in Rasht, but most surprisingly, it closed down its consulate in Esfahan. There are about 500 Russian families, amounting to 2,000 people, in Esfahan, and in addition, since the steel works [built by the Soviets] is situated there the number of Soviet Government personnel there is increasing. However, there are only 78 families, amounting to 250 people, in Rasht. The Soviet Government should close the consulate in Rasht and maintain the one in Esfahan."

In conclusion, in reply to the question "Why is the Soviet Union insisting on keeping the consulate in Rasht?" he said: "This is an important strategic area for the Soviet Union. In addition, the Soviet Consulate in Rasht is close to the Guards Corps and the naval base."

RAJA'I RESPONDS TO BABRAK KARMAL CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

LD271054 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i's telegram in response to the message of congratulations from Babrak Karmal has been given to the PARS NEWS AGENCY by the public relations office of the prime minister. The text of the telegram reads as follows:

In His Exalted Name. Your Excellency Babrak Karmal. Your message of congratulations on my premiership was received under circumstances in which, because of the crushing of our Muslim brothers in Afghanistan, an intense wave of grief has surrounded the people of our country. We are expecting to see a day when the people of Afghanistan can decide their own fate without the intervention of foreign powers and I am certain that the struggle of the Muslims will reach victory against domination of the colonizing powers.

I beseech God to grant unity and success to the meek of the world along the path of attaining freedom and justice.

[Signed] Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i

TEHRAN REPORTS ON FIGHTING IN AFGHANISTAN

JN271821 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1750 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] Citing Afghan Islamic Revolution sources, PARS says that Afghan Muslim fighters have set fire to the financial and communications departments in the city of Qandahar. The same sources said that battles between Afghan fighters and government supporters resulted in the destruction of five tanks and of eight trucks loaded with provisions and fuel. During other battles, 15 government supporters and 15 Soviet soldiers were killed.

LABOR COUNCILS SEND MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO POLISH WORKERS

GF271635 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] PARS NEWS AGENCY reports that the coordination committee of Islamic labor councils in Iran has sent a message to the striking Polish workers declaring its support for the oppressed Polish workers' revolutionary initiative against the arrogant and stressing the need to continue their struggle.

The message says: At a time when all the capabilities of our country's oppressed have been mobilized against the bloodsucking U.S. imperialists, our workers stand by you and urge you to persist in your struggle to attain your industrial and political rights.

The message emphasizes the need for the Polish workers' struggle to continue so the hand of Russian socialist imperialism can be lifted from Poland.

UK EMBASSY ANNOUNCES VISA ISSUE WILL CEASE

LD281004 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 28 Aug 80

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that the British Embassy in Tehran had announced that in the future, as a result of the reduction in the number of staff in that embassy, it would not issue any visas whatsoever to Iranians intending to travel to the UK, even to patients whose names had been placed on the list of the public applications office of the British Embassy.

DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING RELATIONS WITH IRAQ

Clashes in Qasr-e Shirin

GF271615 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] In a statement to PARS NEWS AGENCY, the commander of the Abu Dharr brigade has reported that agents of the Iraqi Ba'thist Army opened fire along the border in Qasr-e Shirin. The Iraqi fire was silenced immediately and its emplacements destroyed.

The brigade commander added: All Iraqi tanks entrenched on the border have been forced to withdraw from the area. Several tanks that had broken down were left behind.

Tehran Reports Use of Missiles

LD271738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] According to PARS, clashes are still continuing between the raiding forces of the Iraqi Army and the forces of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Revolution Guards Corp of the Islamic Revolution and personnel of Iran's gendarmerie along the entire border region of Qasr-e Shirin. The Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran today, for the first time in attacking Iraqi positions, used missiles. The army used a total of four missiles.

According to this report, the commander of the Qasr-e Shirin Revolution Guards Corp has announced that with the formation of a joint operation headquarters in Qasr-e Shirin region, the necessary coordination for operations will be provided for all forces involved in the fighting.

REUTER on Missiles

WA271721 London REUTER in English 1648 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] Tehran, Aug 27, REUTER--Iranian troops used ground-to-ground missiles for the first time in a clash today with Iraqi forces on the troubled border between the two countries, local military commander said. The commander of the Kermanshah garrison armed forces said by telephone that the missiles were fired after the Iraqis began a cross-border heavy artillery barrage, killing two Iranian soldiers.

He said four missiles were used in the engagement near the border town of Qasr-e Shirin, and two of them knocked out two Iraqi military posts. He did not identify the missiles, but they appeared to be small battlefield weapons.

The commander said that, under cover of the missile fire, an Iranian guerrilla unit destroyed the Iraqi artillery emplacement without further Iranian losses. The clash ended shortly afterwards. He described the encounter as one of the heaviest engagements between the two countries' armies since sporadic border skirmishes erupted in April.

Opposition Leader in Iraq

WA281500 Paris LE POINT in French 18 Aug 80 p 28

[Text] General Oveisi, the former military governor of Tehran and now one of the opposition leaders abroad, recently met in secret with Saddam Husayn, Iraq's strongman, in Baghdad. The shah's old supporter reportedly has obtained complete latitude to use Iraqi territory to launch commandos against Khomeyni's soldiers.

KHOMEYNI OPPONENTS MEET IN BONN, CREATE 'IRAN FREEDOM FRONT'

LD251428 Hamburg DPA in German 1405 GMT 25 Aug 80

[Text] Bonn, 25 Aug (DPA)--Representatives of Iranian opposition groups from various parts of the Federal Republic decided at a meeting in Bonn to form an "Iran Freedom Front." This was announced today by the Iran international press agency which is critical of the Khomeyni regime.

The agency stressed that those attending the meeting had agreed to inform the world public by actions of their own about the "inhuman happenings" in Iran. The opposition groups advocated the creation of national government in Iran based on democratic principles.

TEHRAN COMMENTARY ATTACKS BAKHTIAR SUPPORTERS IN U.S.

LD272020 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] Now we draw your attention to tonight's commentary on the arrest of eight Iranians in the United States on the charge of dealing in heroin.

Today, UPI reported from the United States that eight Iranians and one American were arrested today on the charge of dealing in heroin. The report also contains the names of those arrested, who are all members of a group acting against the Islamic Republic of Iran in the United States. This group is actively engaged in propaganda and efforts to deceive the unaware people residing in that country in order to present the revolutionary regime of Iran as a reactionary regime. These people, who always disguise themselves as patriots, have from time to time also been engaged in assembling people with bad records and staging demonstrations in support of Shahpur Bakhtiar in the city of Los Angeles. The latest of these demonstrations last month was crashed by the fighting students, members of the Islamic societies, and--simultaneously with the Washington business--resulted in the creation of another epic of resistance and bravery by our fighting brothers and sisters in Los Angeles.

These fugitive Iranians, who plundered the wealth of the oppressed Iranian nation and took refuge in the land of our great enemy, have created numerous other scandals like this one. While in America, these fugitives, who have never had a respectful career or legitimate income, have not given up their so-called patriotic acts. These people, who had acted as the U.S. fifth column while in Iran with the aim of dragging this country into corruption and prostitution, have decided to transfer their trades to the United States and to get themselves established there, now that these [words indistinct] American has no followers.

Since realizing that they no longer have a place in their own country, these gigolos, who frown and break out in a rash at the word Islam and the Islamic Republic, have embarked on a course aimed at discrediting this country. As the U.S. bloodsucking police have been shaken by the formidableness of our students, these spongers have staged the so-called patriotic demonstrations supporting Shahpur Bakhtiar. Of course, had they not been supporting Bakhtiar, it would have been surprising.

The country which Bakhtiar is engaged in worshiping, near a chafing-dish with his opium pipe, should of course have supporters like these eight persons who have been arrested on charges of dealing in heroin. They were possibly providing the budget for the next demonstration in support of Bakhtiar and providing sufficient [word indistinct] for their leader to give him the benefit of an everlasting heavenly breeze, thus enabling him to prop up his broken-legged storm-bird.

TEHRAN COMMENTS ON ARAB INTERIOR MINISTERS CONFERENCE

JN271056 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0420 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The Arab interior ministers conference convened in At-Ta'if yesterday to discuss two issues according to conference circles: security affairs in Arab countries and preparations for implementing an Islamic penal code.

What is strange is that the Iraqi interior minister was among the first to arrive in Saudi Arabia and Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are to conclude a security agreement at a time when Saddam Husayn has delivered a speech stating that Iraq's security is part of the Arab world's security and vice versa.

The frequent talk about security is disgusting. What is it that makes everyone rush to discuss the issue of security as if the problems of the Arab world have been solved and as if the Muslim individual in the Arab world no longer complains about anything but security?

Whose security are they discussing these days? Is it that of the oppressed Islamic masses or that of the regimes and those who are **sitting** on bloodstained thrones? These leaders, who are exercising their authority through oppression and terrorism and are silencing their opponents with a hail of bullets, surely are not thinking about the security of the masses **but are** only concerned about their own security. If this is not so, then who but the Iraqi masses are threatening Saddam and his corrupt regime? These masses continue to reject every attempt to buy their consciences by increasing their salaries and the like, because **there** is a pool of blood that separates them from Saddam's gang.

What applies to the Iraqi regime applies to the majority of Arab regimes. Since when did Saddam begin considering the security of his regime as part of that of other regimes in the area especially in view of the fact that employees of his embassies, in the gulf for example, are violating the area's security and are acting with frenzy and ferocity thus making the security officials in the gulf countries the laughing stock of their citizens?

This is the kind of security Saddam has proposed to the conference. The citizens must await the results of the Iraqi working paper, especially since the items listed on the conference agenda include implementation of an Islamic penal code. One fears that some reactionary countries will use the code to punish their opponents on charges of committing crimes against honor or seek to impose on them the maximum sentence dictated by Islamic Shari'a. How are the Arab interior ministers qualified to deal with theological issues? Does the implementation of Islam start with its penal code or its regulations on social security? If there is a need to implement a penal code, the first hand that must be severed is that of an Arab ruler, Saddam the plunderer.

AZARBAYJAN GOVERNOR GENERAL RETURNS FROM TURKEY

LD271808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY report, the governor general of western Azarbayjan today returned to Urumiyeh from a trip to the Turkish province of [word indistinct]. On his return he described the results of his talks with the Turkish officials as "fruitful." He also said that as a result of numerous talks, it has been agreed that the Turkish Government will provide necessary facilities for the speedy release of imported goods at the border.

The discussion also covered topics on border trade exchanges such as the purchase of meat and cement from Turkey by Iran and the purchase of oil and gasoline by Turkey from Iran. He said that the outcome of these talks will be announced soon and the two sides agreed to **sign** a protocol at Bazargan border post.

COVERAGE OF ACTIVITIES OF AYATOLLAH KHOMEYNI

Meeting With Raja'i

LD271058 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] The prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, has been received in audience by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and had talks with him for 30 minutes.

Raja'i on Meeting

LD271718 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1633 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] At 1130 today Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, was received by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent, during this meeting which lasted more than 30 minutes, the prime minister discussed the country's current affairs and especially the introduction of the new Cabinet to the imam of the nation.

At the end of this meeting, Mr Raja'i answered a question put to him by the PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent about what issues were discussed in his meeting with the imam and what guidelines where provided by the imam. He said: The discussion was about the problems on our path. The imam said seriously: I have no views on certain people. He emphasized that ideology and Islamic principles should be given first priority, and on this basis the imam gave this advice: You should maintain understanding as much as possible so that, God willing, you succeed in forming and introducing the Cabinet.

Answering a question on whether the Cabinet will be introduced today or not, the prime minister said: No, the Cabinet will not be introduced today. About his meeting with the president, Mr Raja'i said: My meeting with the president yesterday was a lengthy one and the discussion was not limited to personalities. We talked about values, and the major part of the time was devoted to [word indistinct] of values which are necessary in selecting [the members of the Cabinet]. This meeting lasted 8 hours.

A PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent asked: Delay in introducing the Cabinet has created concern among the people. What is your view on this subject? The prime minister said: The formation of the Cabinet, under prevailing conditions when we are searching for people who are 100 percent devoted to Islamic ideology and at the same time are familiar with affairs, is a difficult task. I think that in order to form a Cabinet 100 percent devoted to the ideology a longer period of time is needed, but in the corresponding regulations set for ordinary circumstances this period is 10 days. I think the delay in the introduction of the Cabinet should be accepted. Although this is a hastily formed Cabinet it should include people who are (?accepted) 100 percent or near 100 percent.

Speech to ETTALA'AT Employees

LD242014 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Speech by Ayatollah Khomeyni to ETTELA'AT employees on 27 August in Jamaran Mosque, Tehran--recorded, duration 21 minutes]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. One of our greatest problems during the reign of satan was our difficulties with the press. I do not know which was the greatest, the damage done to our country during the reign of the satan by the press or that done by other satanic organizations.

The press, which should bear the message of the nation and Islam and should publicize the [word indistinct] of Islam, and implement the Islamic principles [words indistinct] and spread divine ethics, during the reign of satan it was assigned to do the contrary. [passage indistinct].

The press should educate young people and should educate society. In offices there should be persons and centers for educating. Because of the centers of corruption which they had planted they corrupted everywhere in order to corrupt our young people and reverse their progress.

Our brothers and sisters should realize what service they have undertaken to provide. If the press and the public media are corrected a society will be put right. If the press does not push young people toward fornication but instead guide them toward the right path, then the fornication centers would shut down too. [passage indistinct]

If it were not for this [word indistinct] this nation could not have defeated these superpowers, these satanic powers. The change came about within the crowds themselves. Gradually this change in the crowds grew. [passage indistinct]

Dear brothers and respectable sisters who are serving this establishment and by the grace of God [words indistinct], be careful to follow the path correctly and directly. Be [word indistinct] and determined to serve your country, and [words indistinct] those who intend to create corruption and return your country to its former state; do not let these evil plans be realized once again.

God willing, your country will be purged in every respect--a general purification, not only an official purging but a general purification. The bazaar should be purged, [words indistinct]. The satanic bazaar should go and a bazaar in accordance with Islamic principle should replace it. Offices, factories, farmers, everytning should be transformed to centers so that wherever you go, there is God and God's teachings.

COVERAGE OF ACTIVITIES OF PRESIDENT BANI-SADR

Meeting With Raja'i on Cabinet

LD271056 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] According to the special correspondent of the president's office, a meeting was held last night at President Abolhasan Bani-Sadar's house, attended by Hojjat ol-Eslam Valmoslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly; Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister; Ayatollah Musavi Ardabili, the prosecutor general of the country; and Ayatollah Mahdavi Kani, a member of the Council of Guardians. During the meeting, they discussed and exchanged views on the nation's current problems and the formation of the future Cabinet. Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni also participated in the meeting.

According to the same report, although no information is available on details of the problems raised at this meeting, all indications are that during last night's meeting some important and decisive questions were raised regarding members of the future Cabinet. Last night's meeting lasted until 0100.

Following this meeting, which lasted more than 7 hours, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, in an interview with the PARS NEWS AGENCY today, spoke of problems which had been discussed at the meeting.

He said: My participation at this meeting was a personal matter. As the imam has said many times, he does not favor any particular individual, but so far what he has graciously said has concerned the attributes that a minister should have. Naturally, I must not interfere in these affairs at all, and I am not doing so, because it is obvious that this matter is up to the Majles, the president and the prime minister. I only made notes on some subjects in order to inform the imam. Of course if they had asked my personal opinion about the ministers, I would have expressed my opinion at the meeting on several people whom I know. Once again I deem it necessary to explain this point that his eminence, the imam, expresses no views about individuals.

National Security Committee Meeting

LD271656 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] The National Security Committee held a session this afternoon with Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president.

According to a report from the president's office, [words indistinct] at this meeting, in which the governor general of Kordestan and Lavasanat and the governor general of Kohkiluyeh Province were also present: Topics concerning national security affairs were discussed and reviewed.

KHALKHALI STATEMENT WARNS GOLD, SILVER SMUGGLERS

LD271758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] In connection with the operations of smugglers to transfer gold and silver abroad, Hojjat ol-Eslam Sheykh Sadeq Khalkhali, the supervisor of the headquarters of the campaign against drug smuggling, today in a statement warned gold and silver smugglers. The text of the statement is as follows:

It has been repeatedly reported that smuggling gangs are melting the country's gold and silver into bullion and then smuggling it abroad, thus dealing great blows to the country's exchange reserves. Those who are involved in smuggling are hereby cautioned that they will be arrested in whatever way possible and the centers of their trade will be closed. We cannot watch the country's exchange reserves being ruined and gold bullion be smuggled abroad.

OPERATIONAL STAFF ISSUES WARNING TO REBELS IN WEST

LD261854 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Aug 80

[Text] The operational staff of the western part of the country, issued a statement addressed to the Muslim people and [word indistinct] in the west. The statement said: The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is becoming more stable every day. This stabilization is a result from the blood of 70,000 martyrs. This government is (?facing) the sinister union of the United States, China, the Soviet Union, Israel and their lackeys Iraq and Egypt as policeman of the region. And every day we witness their sinister plots trying to overthrow the Islamic Republic of Iran by their mercenary and devoted internal Iranian agents.

Now that the Islamic Republic is on the threshold of choosing a Cabinet, you must know that these (evil-natured) foreign and internal agents can never overcome the results from the blood of 70,000 martyrs of the Islamic Revolution because God Himself is the savior of this revolution. Necessary guidance have always been given by the leader of the revolution, the president, the Government of the Islamic Republic and all the revolutionary foundations and an ultimatum has been given to the armed individuals in the region.

The Army of the Islamic Republic, the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps and all the military and security forces in the region are determined to crush the armed counter-revolutionary elements [word indistinct] and given them what they deserve in case they encounter these elements. Thus, all the illegal armed individuals are hereby warned that if they do not hand in their arms within a week, they will be responsible for any losses and damages which might follow.

10 EXECUTED ON COUP INVOLVEMENT CHARGES IN ESFAHAN

LD261004 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 Aug 80

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau the special Islamic Revolution Court of [word indistinct] the army in Esfahan heard the charges against a group of accused who took an active part in connection with the recent cursed coup d'etat and found 10 of them corrupt on earth and [word indistinct] in the Islamic regime and sentenced them to death. The sentence was carried out at dawn today.

The names of those exeucted are as follows: (Majid Besharat), (Syavosh Ne'mati), (Hasan Anvar-Zadeh), (Syavosh Mirza'i), Mohammad [name indistinct], (Mauchehr Sarmad), (Ebrahim Karimi), [name indistinct] (Salehi), (Jalil Sheykhani) and ('Abdol Majid Hormozi).

FORMER RASTAKHIZ OFFICIAL IN ARAK EXECUTED

LD261024 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 Aug 80

[Text] On the verdict of Arak Islamic Revolution Court, (Soleyman Khan-Baluchi), the well-known feudal lord and the secretary of the defunct Rastakhiz Party, one of the masterminds behind the Arak club-wielders' attack, was sentenced to death and was executed this morning.

SEVEN EXECUTED IN AHVAZ FOR CONSPIRACY

LD280454 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Aug 80

[Text] According to a report by the correspondent of the PARS NEWS AGENCY from Ahvaz, this morning at dawn seven agents of the coup d'etat conspiracy faced the firing squad at the coastal park of Ahvaz [Park-e Saheli-e Ahvaz]. The names of those executed are: (Sirus Setudeh), (Mohammad Barati-Farid), (Mohammad 'Ali Mehrabi-Kapurchay), (Iraj Barhami-Marvdashti), (Rasul Yahyapasand-Kapurchay), (Omidvar Atashborow) and (Daryush Atashborow).

CONTINUING UNREST, VIOLENCE IN PROVINCES

Prohibition in Bushehr

LD272021 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] The PARS NEWS AGENCY reports that the Bushehr governor general has announced that all passenger and cargo motorboats, except for fishing motor boats, are forbidden to leave Bushehr Province ports until further notice. The Bushehr governor general gave the reason for this decision as some security issues.

Fars Governor on Tribes

LD261029 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 20 Aug 80 p A 1

[KEYHAN correspondent's report: "Governor General of Fars Province: 'The Tribes Will Not Allow a War To Be Imposed on the South'"]

[Text] Shiraz--Governor General of Fars Mohammad Nabi Habib has gone to Firuzabad as leader of a delegation which is to examine the needs and inadequacies of the southeast region of Fars Province. At a gathering of the people of Firuzabad last night, he said: "Counter-revolution has hatched a conspiracy aimed at employing treacherous strategems in the south of Iran, especially in Fars; these conspiracies have been exposed and the matter has been discussed at the seminar for governors-general in the south. It has been said that now Kordestan has been crushed [as published], counterrevolution seeks to draw our forces in another direction so that we may have to fight on two fronts and thus be weakened.

"The tribesmen [of the south], are in the same position as the Kurds. It must be said that the zealous tribesmen are themselves dealing a shattering riposte to counterrevolution in order to convince the plotters that we are ready to confront anywhere those who wish to wage war against the Islamic Republic of Iran." He added: "The people support the revolution and they will not allow a war to be imposed on the south. The economic and cultural problems of the tribes are being considered and in meetings with the imam we have said that in the Islamic Republic we should not lead people to imagine that we seek to weaken security since the people themselves will fearlessly guard security. A combined headquarters of the army, gendarmerie, and guards corps has been set up in tribal centers. It is participating jointly in the crushing of counterrevolution, and wherever expediency so demands, brother guards will be stationed at gendarmerie posts."

Fighting in Khuzestan

GF261315 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 26 Aug 80

[Excerpt] The following announcement has been issued by the Ahvaz revolutionary organizations in relation to the martyrdom of three members of the Islamic Society of (Shahid Sobhani), formerly (Khalifeh Heydar), village: In the name of the God of our martyrs: At 0200 yesterday three of the most active brother members of the (Shahid Sobhani) village Islamic society were martyred on the Ahvaz-Andimeshk road in a dirty plot by feudalists and well-known fugitive counterrevolutionaries led by the treacherous Khalifeh Heydar. One of the martyrs' friends was badly injured and is now in hospital. Those killed were (Vahid Kalamollah Ka'ab), (Razo Kalamollah Ka'ab) and (Saleh Kalamollah Ka'ab).

According to information discovered, the counterrevolutionaries' aim was to attack and destroy the village. But during their travel to the village, following an encounter with Revolution Guards of the Islamic Society and the murder of the guards, one of their horses carrying ammunition bolted. This incident, together with the readiness of the villagers, resulted in attackers' fleeing to their hideout in the woods. What provokes pity in this incident is the lack of attention by responsible authorities to warnings by members of the guards and crusade to disarm feudalists in the area.

Mopping-Up Operations in Kermanshah

LD261818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Aug 80

[Text] According to a report sent from the public relations office of the western operational joint staff to the news unit of Kermanshah center, following the mopping-up operations (?between) Kamyaran and (Gadersangi) last night, the (Tubriz) and (Kureh Darreh) roads were taken over by the forces of the army of the Islamic Republic and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. The (Komeleh, Hava Sard) and Kurdish democratic forces suffered heavy losses.

The counterrevolutionaries who engaged in this clash were armed with .50-caliber guns, G-3 machineguns [word indistinct] and mortars.

Clash in Takab

LD261032 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 Aug 80

[Text] The public relations office of the joint operations headquarters for the west of the country has issued the statement:

During a clash that occurred yesterday morning near Takab, mopping-up forces of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps killed six (?invading) counterrevolutionaries and captured three Kalashnikov rifles. In a clash which occurred yesterday afternoon between the Guards Corps personnel and unlawful armed groups in the [name indistinct] region in [name indistinct], one counterrevolutionary was arrested. In this clash, which lasted about 1 hour, the guards forced the rest of the assailants to retreat.

During the past few days, three smugglers of the [name indistinct] region were arrested by the Guards Corps and handed over to the revolution public prosecutor's office.

Army Operations in Kordestan

ID272106 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] Acoording to PARS, the public relations office of the headquarters of the country's western joint operation announced today that during the ongoing operation around (?Pekah) [in Kordestan] a clash occurred between the forces of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Revolution Guards Corps with the occupants of three vehicles carrying members of the outlawed Democrat Party of Kordestan, who were travelling from Marivan to Bani-Kandi for training in explosives. The three vehicles were destroyed and 17 of the counterrevolutionaries were killed and 27 were injured.

Measures Against 'Counterrevolutionaries' in Azarbayjan

LD261515 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 19 Aug 80 p 9

[KEYHAN correspondent's report: "Salaries of All Government Staff in Mahabad Stopped on Orders of West Azarbayjan Governor-General"]

[Text] Urumiyeh--On the orders of the West Azarbayjan governor general, salaries and other payments to all government staff in the towns of Mahabad and Bukan have been stopped. The order was issued in an effort to take over control of administrative affairs and to forestall abuse and penetration by counterrevolutionaries in government organizations.

In a letter to the director general for economic and financial affairs in the province, West Azarbayjan Governor-General Engineer Hoseyn Taheri instructed that until further notice, no more payments of any kind should be made to any government offices, organizations and affiliated institutions in Mahabad and Bukan, and all payments of staff salaries should cease. The text of the letter reads as follows:

In the name of the merciful, the clement:

Since at present there is unfortunately no control whatever over administrative and governmental affairs and since counterrevolutionary elements have penetrated all government organizations and offices and are using government budget funds to carry out measures opposed to the Islamic Republic, and because of a lack of security, provincial authorities are unable to travel there, therefore, from this date until further notice, no payment of any kind will be made to any government offices, organizations and affiliated institutions in Mahabad and Bukan, and government staff salaries will cease.

All the Muslim, noble people of Mahabad and Bukan naturally support the Islamic Republic of Iran Government and they are assured that the hands of the counterrevolutionary and hireling elements who harm the inhabitants and create unrest and disturbances will be restrained.

It is, therefore, incumbent upon the zealous people of the region to get together, rub the unclean snouts of these corrupt elements in the dust, and refrain from giving them any support or shelter.

[Signed] Hoseyn Taheri, West Azarbayjan governor-general

Clash Near Salmas

LD261042 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 26 Aug 80

[Text] According to the CENTRAL NEWS BUREAU, the public relations office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Urumiyeh announced: Between the hours of 0200 and 0600 yesterday, in a rather heavy clash which occurred between 100 counterrevolutionaries and a task force consisting of Salmas Guards Corps, Muslim Kurdish peshmergas, gendarmerie Javan Mardan and the khoy (?operational column), in the (Qezel Sangi) village in Salmas, the assailants were forced to retreat leaving behind three RPG-7 shells.

The armed forces of the Islamic Republic did not suffer any casualties in this clash; the assailants took any casualties they might have had with them when retreating.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENT ON MEDICAL PRESCRIPTIONS, CARE

LD270736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 27 Aug 80

[Text] Dr Fazel, supervisor of the Health and Welfare Ministry, in an interview with a correspondent from PARS NEWS AGENCY, has said:

In accordance with the pharmacological [word indistinct] scheme, which will be enforced in a few months' time, all like medicines which are put on the market by different companies, or by one company but under different brands, will be collected and made available to the public only by their scientific and chemical names.

Dr Fazel added: After the enforcement of this scheme, the price of drugs will definitely be reduced by varying amounts. In some cases this will amount to 20 percent.

The supervisor of the Health and Welfare Ministry said, concerning free national health care: Our aim is not to shout slogans or offer noisy schemes, but we must consider realities and availabilities. It is obvious that the effort and the aim of the Health and Welfare Ministry is to offer medical services at the national level for everybody.